

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (SEPA) CHECKLIST City of Spokane Building Department

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: Bluff Road Restoration Project
2. Name of applicant: **Avista Corp ATTN: Robin Bekkedahl**
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: **1411 E Mission MSC-21, Spokane, WA 99202**
4. Date checklist prepared: **May 2017**
5. Agency requesting checklist: **City of Spokane.**
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): **Construction to begin in May of 2017.**

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. **No**

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain. **No**

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. **Shoreline Substantial Development Permit; Construction Stormwater Permit;**

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The project consists of immediate restoration on a 1.5 mile unplanned road that was done on April 10th and 11th. The agencies agreed that immediate action to restore the road needed to be completed in May to prevent further damage. The plan was to restore the area to prior contours including the slope, trail network, and cover with native plants. Erosion control measures, site surveys, cultural survey, draft restoration plan was initiated, and a community meeting was held.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist. **The area to be restored is located on the east bank of Hangman Creek starting approximately at 3515 S. Inland Empire Way and continuing south parallel to the creek for 1.5 miles. The area is located in a portion of the SW Section 31, Township 25N, Range 43 E.W.M in the City and County of Spokane, WA.**

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION
FOR
AGENCY
USE
ONLY

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. **Earth**

- a. General description of the site (circle one): **Flat, rolling**, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other
- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? **15%**
- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.
The existing soil textures observed on-site appear to be composed of sandy loam at the base of the road, sand on the steeper hill then smaller pockets of clay soils near the upper part of the slope.
- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. **No.**
- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill. **The fill for that will be used is the existing soils that were disturbed during the road cut. The approximated quantity that was recompacted was 650 cubic yards.**
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. **The unplanned road had immediate erosion control measures put in place, disturbed soils regraded back to original topography and native vegetation put in place, These measures will prevent erosion.**

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? **None of the project area site will be covered with impervious surfaces.**
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: **The restoration project footprint does not extend beyond the area of the unplanned road. The distance of the shoreline that is impacted is approximately 1/2 mile and approximately 100' from the Hangman Creek OHWM. Erosion control measures, including straw wattles and silt fencing were used to contain any drainage and sediment. The existing soil textures observed on-site appear to be composed of sandy loam at the base of the road, sand on the steeper hill then smaller pockets of clay soils near the upper part of the slope. The disturbed soils were contained back in the original road cut area and will be compacted and then reseeded with the native grass seed mixes and plants to provide for stabilization. A tackifier was also used to help keep the soil in place. Monitoring will be done on a continual basis for 5-7 years for plant survivability. The Habitat Management Plan and Planting Plan describe the methods that will be implemented to avoid impacts to the aquatic environment.**

2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known. **Some exhaust from the equipment would be emitted to the air during the restoration.**
- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. **None known.**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: **None.**

3. Water

a. Surface:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into. **The Hangman Creek is 100' to 200' or more from the project area of the unplanned road.**

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans. **Yes. We are restoring the slope and replacing the same vegetation with native plant species to protect the ecological functioning and result in a no net loss within shoreline and wetland buffer area. Restoration efforts are only a temporary impact that will permanently restore the area back to its original condition. The Habitat Management Plan and Planting Plan was developed that outlined the specifics regarding restoration approach.**

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material. **N/A.**

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. **No.**

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site

plan. **No.**

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge. **No.**

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. **No.**

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve. **None.**

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Stormwater runoff will not be generated from the restoration project.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. **No waste materials will enter ground or surface waters.**

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any: **The stabilization of the site during and after restoration of the area will be addressed in the Erosion Control Sedimentation Plan and Habitat Management Plan. This would include measures, such as silt fencing, straw wattles, mulching and seeding of the area to secure the disturbed ground so runoff impacts do not occur.**

4. Plants

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

Deciduous tree: Alder, maple, aspen, other

Evergreen tree: Fir, cedar, pine, other Ponderosa Pine

Shrubs

Grass Canada bluegrass, bulbous bluegrass, Idaho fescue

Pasture

Crop or grain

Wet soil plants: Cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

Water plants: Water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

Other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

No vegetation will be removed from the site.

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. **None known.**

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: **N/A**

5. **Animals**

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

Birds: Hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

Mammals: Deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

Fish: Bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. **None known.**

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. **No**

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: **None**

6. **Energy and natural resources**

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc. Electricity, if needed for saw cutting or other aspects of the demolition will be provided via a utility meter.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe. **N/A**

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: **N/A**

7. **Environmental health**

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required. **None.**

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

b. **Noise**

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? **None**

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site. **Construction noise from equipment can be expected during the restoration. We anticipate up to 10 round trips per day during the project.**

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: **None.**

8. **Land and shoreline use**

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? **The current use of the site is a combination of City of Spokane Conservation Lands, private lands, a two track dirt path, and an easement area for Avista's transmission line. Mountain bikers, hikers, trail runners, dog walkers and other recreationists use the area. Adjacent properties include High Drive and a residential neighborhood area.**

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe. **No**

c. Describe any structures on the site. **The only structures on and or near the site are the existing**

transmission poles.

- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? **No**
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? **Single Family Residential**
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? **Open Space**
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? **Natural**
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify. **Yes, a small portion of the restoration area is within the wetland buffer and the area is also designated under the City of Spokane Critical Areas Ordinance as Zone 6, Riparian Habitat Area (RHA).**
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? **N/A**
- j. Approximately how many people would be displaced by the completed project? **N/A**
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any. **N/A.**

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

The City of Spokane Comprehensive Plan, Zoning regulations, Shoreline Master Plan, Critical Area Ordinance support the project area for restoration. This is a noted conservation area within a designated shoreline area. The site is in an area that has not had previous shoreline restoration activities and would be subject to the provisions of SMC 17G.060. To meet these provisions a Habitat Management Plan and Planting Plan was developed. The plans show the type, quantities, and location of the vegetation as well as addressing no net loss and mitigation sequencing. The proposal meets the intent of the Spokane Shoreline Master Program (SMP) and is consistent with the policies of the Shoreline Management Act (SMA). The SMA and SMP promote the restoration of shorelines to the natural environment to further increase and protect the ecological functions of the area.

9. **Housing**

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

N/A.

10. **Aesthetics**

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? **N/A**

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? **No views will be obstructed in the immediate vicinity or altered.**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: **The restoration effort will improve the aesthetics to the shoreline and neighborhood.**

11. **Light and glare**

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? **N/A**

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? **N/A**
- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? **N/A**
- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: **N/A**

12. **Recreation**

- a. What designated and informal recreation opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?
The Bluff Area has existing bike and pedestrian paths throughout the area.
- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. **No**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: **None.**

13. **Historic and cultural preservation**

- a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe. **The records do not indicate any significant historic or cultural sites within this area.**
- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site. **The DAHP has the records indicating any sites that are on or next to the site. The project does not impact the cultural resources.**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any: **N/A.**

14. **Transportation**

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system.
Show on site plans, if any. **The site is accessed from a private road.**
- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?
No
- b. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? **N/A**
- c. How many would the project eliminate? **N/A**
- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). **No**
- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe. **No**
- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur. **After completion of the project no vehicular trips per day will be generated.**
- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: **The overall project will inhibit access in this area.**

15. **Public services**

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: Fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe. **No**

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

16. Utilities

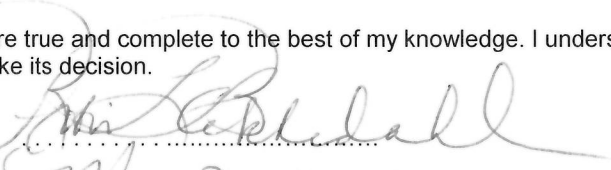
a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: Electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed. No utilities are proposed for the project.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature:



Date Submitted:

